

Amendments to the Abstract

Please **amend** the Abstract to read.

-- The invention relates to the field of home networks, in particular the connection of two home networks of different types via a gateway (14). The network devices in the network of the first type are also intended to be able to control the network devices in the network of the second type, and vice versa. In the context of realizing control message conversions, the problem has arisen that, although direct conversions into the format of the other network are possible for many control messages, in some cases there is no correspondence for a control message in the device to be controlled. In order to convert such control messages, it is proposed to provide means (60) in the network connection unit (14) which check whether a data connection to a further network device (19) is set up for the device (20) to be controlled and, if the further network device (19) has this device functionality, the conversion is effected such that the control message is converted into a corresponding control message for the further network device (19) and is forwarded to the further network device (19). Figure 2 --